

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. No changes to the claims are made herein.

Listing of Claims

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for planning and scheduling tasks within at least one request for change (RFC) within a change window in a computing system, comprising the steps of

deciding whether or not an RFC should be done;

for each RFC to be done, assigning individual tasks within each RFC to acceptable servers;

for each RFC to be done, assigning ~~the a~~ start ~~times~~ time to said individual tasks.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of reserving all the servers involved for ~~the a~~ duration that begins at the start of ~~the a~~ first task and ends at the finish of ~~the a~~ last task for each RFC that should be done.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of maximizing ~~the a~~ value of all RFCs done;

wherein the value is a profit value derived from performing a plurality of jobs associated with a selected subset of the RFCs; and

wherein the profit value for each RFC is expressed as a value of performing the

jobs minus a value of associated costs.

4. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of maximizing the number of RFCs done.

5. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing total downtime.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing ~~the costs~~ at least one cost associated with downtime.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing ~~the~~ a total execution time in implementing a task.

8. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of maximizing the number of RFCs meeting their deadlines

9. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing multiple deadline penalties associated with the RFCs and/or their respective tasks

10. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing ~~the~~ an average response time of each RFCs.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing ~~the~~ a weighted average response time of each RFCs.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A system for planning and scheduling tasks within at least one request for change (RFC) within a change window in a computing system, comprising

an arrangement for deciding whether or not an RFC should be done;

an arrangement for assigning individual tasks to acceptable servers for each RFC to be done; and

an arrangement for assigning ~~the~~ a start times time to said individual tasks for each RFC to be done.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for reserving all the servers involved for ~~the~~ a duration that begins at the start of the first task and ends at the finish of the last task for each RFC that should be done.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for maximizing ~~the~~ a value of all RFCs done;

wherein the value is a profit value derived from performing a plurality of jobs associated with a selected subset of the RFCs; and

wherein the profit value for each RFC is expressed as a value of performing the jobs minus a value of associated costs.

15. **(Original)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for maximizing the number of RFCs done.

16. **(Original)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing total downtime.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing ~~the costs~~ at least one cost associated with downtime.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing ~~the~~ a total execution time in implementing a task.

19. **(Original)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for maximizing the number of RFCs meeting their deadlines

20. **(Original)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing multiple deadline penalties associated with the RFCs and/or their respective tasks.

21. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing ~~the~~ an average response time of each RFCs.

22. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing ~~the~~ a weighted average response time of each RFCs.

23. **(Currently Amended)** A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a

method for planning and scheduling tasks within at least one request for change (RFC)
within a change window in a computing system, the method comprising the steps of:

deciding whether or not an RFC should be done;

for each RFC to be done, assigning individual tasks within each RFC to
acceptable servers;

for each RFC to be done, assigning ~~the a~~ start ~~times~~ time to said individual tasks.